

July 2016

Minutes of the 38th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Rural Roads Development Agency

The 38th meeting of the Executive Committee was held on 28th June 2016 in the Conference Hall of National Rural Road Development Agency (NRRDA), 5th Floor, 15 NBCC Tower, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Shri Rajesh Bhushan, Director General, NRRDA and Joint Secretary (RC), MoRD. The following members were present in the meeting:-

1. Dr. Praveen Kumar, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT, Roorkee
2. Dr. Ashok Kumar Sarkar, Dean, Faculty Div.-1, Deptt of Civil Engg., BITS, Pilani, Rajasthan
3. Dr. I.K.Pateria, Director (Tech) NRRDA,
4. Ms. Anjali Singh, Director (F&A), NRRDA
5. Shri K. Sanjayan, Dy. Secretary (Finance), Ministry of Rural Development.

The meeting started with the Chairman welcoming the members.

The proceedings of the meeting were as follows:-

Item No.	Discussion and Decisions	Action by
Item No. I	<p>Confirmation of the Minutes of the 37th meeting of the Executive Committee of NRRDA and action taken thereon.</p> <p>Director (F&A) informed the members that the Minutes of 37th Meeting were circulated to the members and no comments were received thereon. The Executive Committee confirmed the said minutes.</p> <p>The EC reviewed the action taken on the discussion of the 37th EC meeting, and decided as follows:</p> <p>Item No. 5: The Committee noted the proposal of NRRDA incorporation of the scheme for hiring Young Interns in Human</p>	

	<p>resource policy of NRRDA, currently under preparation by an Internal Committee appointed by the Ministry of Rural development.</p> <p>Item No. 7: The Committee noted the action taken by NRRDA and decided that the matter should be followed up with the Service Tax authorities.</p> <p>Item no.10: The committee was informed that the MoU is under examination of the IFD, MoRD. The Committee desired that the matter be expedited and requested the representative of the IFD present in the meeting, accordingly.</p> <p>Item No.13: The Committee noted the action taken with regard to de-empanelment of those NQMs whose performance was found unsatisfactory.</p> <p>The Committee also observed that there existed a need to increase the rate of honorarium of NQMs and STAs with the objective of attracting the best talent. The Committee agree to increase the honorarium of NQMs from Rs. 3500/- to 5000/- per day. Further, the Committee also opined that the subsequent increase in honorarium, should be automatically done every year and this should be linked with the average increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The Committee also suggested that an increase in honorarium in respect of STAs should also be considered along the same lines.</p> <p>The EC decided that a consolidated proposal in this regard be prepared for the consideration of the GB.</p>	
<p><i>Item No.II</i></p>	<p>Decisions of the Selection Committee with regard to NQMs.</p> <p>(i) Selection of New NQMs: The Executive Committee was informed that the 19th Selection Committee meeting for Empanelment of new NQMs was held on 18th March 2016. 48 applications were placed before the Selection Committee. Out of these, 40 candidates were recommended for empanelment subject to recommendation of the respective State govts/production of requisite documents. 8 candidates were not recommended for empanelment on account of non-fulfilment of various provisions of the Selection Criteria. The</p>	

	<p>Executive Committee was informed that out of the 40 recommended for empanelment, 26 have been empanelled upon receipt of all documents.</p> <p>(ii) Delay in joining by NQMs:</p> <p>The EC was informed that the selection Committee also decided that those NQMs who take more than three months to join after their empanelment, without any genuine reasons, should be de-empanelled. 8 NQMs who have taken more than 3 month's time to join without any reasons, have been accordingly de-empanelled.</p> <p>(iii) Non Completion of Inspection schedule issued by NRRDA:</p> <p>The EC was informed that Selection Committee has recommended that all those NQMs who fail to comply with the monthly schedule of inspection consecutively for 3 times without any genuine reasons, may be de-empanelled.</p> <p>(iv) Frequency of Selection Committee Meetings: The EC was informed that the Selection Committee has decided that its meetings be held once every six months.</p> <p>The EC members noted the above. The EC desired that an assessment be made of the actual number of NQMs required by NRRDA. Further, it was also decided that a write up on the average number of inspections done by the NQM, annually and their quality, be shared with the members of the EC for their information.</p>	
<p><i>Item No.III</i></p>	<p>Orientation-cum-training programme for newly empanelled NQMs.</p> <p>The Committee was apprised of the Orientation-cum-training programme, held, on several aspects of quality monitoring, including on Mobile Based Application Software, for newly empanelled NQMs, at IAHE Noida.</p> <p>The Committee opined that a slide may be prepared for the forthcoming General Body Meeting depicting a graph indicating use of Mobile application vis-a-vis the web based inspections for each State during the last three years.</p>	

<p><i>Item No.IV</i></p>	<p align="center">National Workshop to review Quality Assurance Handbook (QAHB)</p> <p>Executive committee was informed about the National Workshop to review the Quality Assurance Handbook (QAHB). An Expert Group constituted by NRRDA, prepared the draft and considered by the Peer Review Group during its meeting held on 3rd June 2016. Amendments suggested by the Peer Review Group were incorporated and the same was discussed in National Workshop on 11th June 2016.</p> <p>The State officials were also requested to convey their inputs in writing to the Chairman of the Expert Group.</p> <p>The final version of the QAHB document would be ready by 30th June, 2016.</p> <p>Executive Committee took note of this development and appreciated this intervention.</p>	
<p><i>Item No. V</i></p>	<p align="center">Delegation of Financial Power to Director (F&A) in regard to hiring of conveyance and vehicle.</p> <p>EC was informed occasionally taxis are required to be hired in NRRDA for workshops/conferences/training programmes. Currently all powers for hiring of taxis rest with DG NRRDA. It was proposed to delegate the financial power upto Rs. 10,000/- in a month to Director (F&A), for hiring taxis in connection with seminars/workshops or training programmes.</p> <p>The Executive Committee approved the same.</p>	
<p><i>Item No. VI</i></p>	<p align="center">Setting up of the NTSA as a separate unit within NRRDA and renaming of NRRDA as NRIDA.</p> <p>DG, NRRDA informed the EC that Cabinet has approved the new rural housing scheme-Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin). In this regard, a National Technical Support Agency (NTSA), is to be set up as a self contained multi-disciplinary wing under the National Rural Road Development Agency (NRRDA) reporting directly to Joint Secretary (RH), to provide technical support to different aspects related to the scheme's implementation and to act as an SPV for disbursement of Loan amount from NABARD and other agencies. The NTSA will be manned by the personnel engaged through deputation and</p>	

	<p>hired on contract.</p> <p>EC was informed that the following action is required to be taken by NRRDA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Memorandum of Association would need to be modified to add the additional activities, stipulating mainly that the NTSA will provide technical support to rural housing & access financial assistance for this purpose, from relevant Financial Institutions and International Partners. ii) The name of NRRDA would be changed to National Rural Roads and Housing Development Agency (NRRHDA). iii) The composition of General Body & Executive Committee would need to be modified to include JS (RH) as Additional DG NRRDA and as Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee of NRRDA. iv) In principle approval of Ministry exists for the above. The formal approval of the Minister (RD) in his capacity as President, NRRDA would be sought in the GB meeting of NRRDA. <p>The Executive Committee ratified the same. The Committee also suggested that the emblem of NRRDA would require to be Changed, to suitably incorporate the component of rural housing.</p>	
<p>Item No.VII</p>	<p>Correction in fixation of remuneration of Sh. Brij Mohan and Sh. H.S. Saini engaged as consultants in NRRDA</p> <p>The EC was informed that while revising the remuneration of the Consultants engaged by NRRDA, in July 2013, the remuneration of two Consultants working with F&A Division was wrongly fixed. The Committee was informed that the same has now been correctly fixed. However a view with regard to the amount paid to them in excess of their entitlement is required to be taken. After due deliberation, it was decided to refer the matter to IFD. The representative of IFD was requested to provide the inputs of IFD early so that the matter could be placed before the General Body, which is likely to meet</p>	

	in the near future.	
<i>Item No. VIII</i>	<p align="center">Rectification of Irregular designated post of Consultants as AD/DD</p> <p>EC was informed that retired officers have been engaged in NRRDA on contract basis. Their initial engagement was as consultants. However since the last few years the retired officers, who were earlier called consultants, have started carrying the designation of the regular posts (D.Ds and ADs). This has been objected to by Audit in the current year report as also by a Committee of Directors, in their report submitted to the then D.G NRRDA in Sept 2012.</p> <p>The representatives of STA informed that the practise in most organisations is that they are referred to as Consultants. After due deliberation, with regard to the practise prevalent in similarly placed organisations, it was decided that the matter be referred to IFD for their inputs, early so that the same can be placed before the General Body.</p>	
<i>Item No. IX</i>	<p align="center">Twitter: @ PMGSY_NRRDA</p> <p>The EC was apprised of the fact that a twitter account for PMGSY, has been created, to widely disseminate information about the scheme, to invite feedback and to ensure quick responses to issues relating to the scheme.</p> <p>EC took note of the same.</p>	
<i>Item No. X</i>	<p align="center">Any other item with the permission of Chair.</p> <p>Prof. Praveen Kumar, from IIT Roorkee, informed the EC about progress made with regard to preparations for the seminar, to mark the 15 years of PMGSY. He informed the committee that write-ups and articles on PMGSY are being received and requested the D.G to sanction the balance 50 percent of the estimated expenditure, for the Seminar. He informed the Committee that IIT Roorkee has no budget for organising a seminar for PMGSY and therefore full payment in advance would be required, for making necessary arrangements, including publications etc. In view of the facts brought out by him, it was decided to release 90 percent of the amount as advance. The balance was decided to be paid upon furnishing of final bill.</p>	